

Translation of specification annexes

Therefore, there is a need for a method and a system that allow a user to commission a mailing service provider, for example, with the personalized printing of an individual postcard and the subsequent sending of said postcard.

Another drawback of known systems is that the means for generating orders for mail that is to be printed and sent is often tied to a certain location because of the required auxiliary means. Consequently, there is also a need for a system that allows a user to generate location-independent orders for mail that is to be printed and sent.

U.S. Pat. No. 5,805,810 discloses, for example, a method for generating mailpieces from e-mail messages. The method provides that an e-mail message is sent in a computer system comprising at least one database with an identification of the sender and of the appertaining recipient as well as a message checking unit. The database comprises address information of senders and recipients. When an electronic message is sent to the checking unit, it accesses the database entry pertaining to the sender in a sender database and determines the sender's address from this. Moreover, the unit checks whether the ascertained sender has sufficient credit in an account for sending a mailpiece. Then, on the basis of the recipient identification, the delivery address of the registered recipient is ascertained in the recipient database. A printing component generates a print-out from the text of the e-mail and provides this mailpiece with the sender and recipient addresses.

Moreover, U.S. Pat. Appln. No. 2002/0132609 A1 discloses a scalable system for transmitting messages that is configured as a wireless network. Wireless equipment such as PDAs, mobile telephones or laptops can send and receive messages.

Consequently, the objective of the present invention is to provide a method for ordering and performing printing services and mailing services in a system in which a user is location-independent and, in a way that involves little effort on his part, can generate an order for an individual piece of mail that is to be printed and sent, whereby the user has a great deal of freedom in selecting the design of the mail.

The objective of the invention is also to provide a system for carrying out a method for ordering and performing individual printing services and mailing services in which an order for mail that is to be individually printed and mailed can be generated by a user in a way that is location-independent and that involves little effort on his part, whereby the user has a great deal of freedom in selecting the design of the mail.

The objective is achieved according to the invention by a method having the features of Claim 1. The objective is also achieved by a system having the features of Claims 23 and 24.